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8-18-01  
M.L.

# PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Jaime Simon et al

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

Attorney Docket No.: 42801B

For: WATER-SOLUBLE POLYMERS FOR THE REDUCTION OF DIETARY  
PHOSPHATE OR OXALATE ABSORPTION

EXPRESS MAIL MAILING LABEL NO. EL414238935US

DATE OF DEPOSIT: June 26, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

### PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, Applicants respectfully request amendment of the original Specification and Claims as follows:

#### IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend page 1 of the specification by inserting the following paragraph immediately after the title of the Invention:

#### Cross-Reference to Related Application

A1 This application is a divisional of pending application serial number 09/091,998, filed June 23, 1998 (a 371 of PCT/US97/19322, filed October 22, 1997), which claims benefit from U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/028,993 filed October 23, 1996, now abandoned. ~~see~~

#### IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1-4, 6-15, and 17 in favor of prosecution in the parent application or another continuation application.

Please amend the Claims 18, 20, 22, 24-25, and 27-28 as follows:

A2 (18) (amended) A formulation for oral administration which comprises a water-soluble polyether glycol polymer which comprises: a structural backbone of carbon atoms and oxygen atoms where there are at least two consecutive carbon atoms present between each oxygen atom; a moiety on the backbone of the polymer or a functionalized derivative on the polymer, that is cationic at physiological pH and permits complexation with phosphate or oxalate; and an average molecular weight from about 5,000 to about 750,000 Daltons with a pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier.